T-8072US



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

pplicants:

H. Sakai et al.

: Art Unit:

2643

Serial No.:

09/735,673

: Examiner:

B. Taylor

Filed:

December 13, 2000

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TELEPHONE APPARATUS

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Technology Center 2600

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98 and to the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application is requested to consider and make of record the references listed on the PTO 1449 (R&P) submitted herewith. A copy of each of the listed references is also enclosed.

Although the information submitted herewith may be "material" to the Examiner's consideration of the subject application, this submission is not intended to constitute an admission that such information is "prior art" as to the claimed invention.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made.

Japanese references 5-191497 and 11-136319 are not in the English language, but an English abstract thereof is attached to the copy of each reference submitted herewith. Further, these references were cited by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application. A copy of each of the English language search reports, indicating the degree of relevance determined by the foreign patent office is submitted herewith. MPEP Section 609A(3), second paragraph.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the filing of the above-referenced application, and a certification can be made that the references were cited in a search report within 3 months, or became known within the last 3 months. No Final Action or Notice of Allowance has yet been received and it is presumed that none has yet been mailed. Accordingly, the required certification (as required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)) is provided herewith.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned, an attorney registered to practice before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, hereby certifies that each reference disclosed in the subject Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months before the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

Lawrence E. Ashery, Reg. No. 24,515 Attorney for Applicants

Enclosures:

PTO Form/1449

Copy of (#11) References

Search Report (3)

Dated: July 25, 2002

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The Assistant Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit Account No. 18-0350 of any fees associated with this communication.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on:

July 25, 2002